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Editor's response

The editors at *Canadian Family Physician* have received helpful feedback regarding the cover image used in the February 2010 issue of the journal.

The cover images that are used for *Canadian Family Physician* are taken from stock photos. When choosing cover images, the editorial and design staff look for dramatic or visually interesting images that are consistent with the theme of the journal issue. When possible, we also try to represent best practice. In the case of the February issue it was difficult to find a visually interesting image that incorporated the use of a spacer device.

Dr Spier's feedback presents an important opportunity to clarify to readers that the most recent recommendations from the Canadian Asthma Consensus Guidelines and the Canadian Pediatric Asthma Consensus Guidelines state the following: "When prescribing a pressurized metered-dose inhaler (pMDI) for maintenance or acute asthma, physicians should recommend use of a valved spacer, with mouth-piece when possible, for all children (level II evidence)."

Furthermore, we are grateful for Dr Kovesi's feedback about the importance of clearly linking the cover image to the content (ie, image of an adult with asthma when the issue addresses adult asthma), as well as his criticism of images that depict the use of rescue medication.

—Nicholas Pimlott MD CCFP
Scientific Editor

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Inspiring events

I had a strong emotional reaction when I read Dr Gutkin's Vital Signs in the February issue of *Canadian Family Physician*.¹ Here I learned that 20 family physicians participated in the 2010 Olympic torch relay—a simple fact, but one with an enormous meaning.

It reminded me of when I attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the College of Family Physicians of Canada, where I witnessed the beautiful Declaration of Commitment ceremony and the commitment of Canadian family doctors to the principles and values of the College, to Canada, and to Canadians. It was a fantastic ceremony! It inspired an editorial I wrote in *Atención Primaria*, the journal of the Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine, entitled "Canadá:

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medicina de familia. Crisis y respuesta,” in which I reflected upon the importance of rituals and symbols.

Now I see another ritual: carrying the Olympic torch—a symbol of an alliance in society and a message about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. I am inspired to write an article on this, in my opinion, historical event.

I am pleased once again to congratulate Dr Gutkin and the College for the brilliant strategies developed to overcome the general crisis in Canadian health services. Good luck and congratulations on your leadership.

—Julio Ceitlin MD DPH
Buenos Aires, Argentina

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